### UNITED STATES GO

## 1emorandum

то	Director, FBI (105-371	.37)	DATE:	10/27/65	
FROM	SAC, Memphis (100-4234	(RUC)			
subjec	JOHN OLIVER KILLENS; SM - C			. 11.	
	NEW YORK OO			<u>.</u>	
	Reurlet dated 9/9	)/65.			
	by SA The following inc	on dates indicat		, was conducted	- CELO
b7C	On 9/30/65 advised that JOHN O. KILLEN residence at Fisk and has a He came to Fisk from New Yo talking with students who a not know KILLENS personally several novels. KILLENS' activities, past a	served in this capa ork and his work con aspire to be writer 7. He knows that K stated that he kn	ted as city f sists s. ILLENS new not	or over a year. primarily of does has written	
	On 10/22/65 University, advised his red designated author-in-reside served in this capacity unticapacity in September, 1965. He resides in Burrows Apart Campus, which is located at stated that he knows very counsels with aspiring artipast, organizational affilistated that he knows	ence at Fisk in Feb 11 5/30/65. He was 5, for the school y tments, Apartment 25 t 16th and Meharry little concerning K lsts and knows noth lations or politica new of no travel on d that he left the area.	oruary, redes redes rear of fisk Blvd. CILLENS aing coal beling the prisk C	1965, and he ignated in this 1965 - 1966. University  except that he neerning his efs. art of KILLENS	1
•	2 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAI 1 - WFO (INFO) (REGISTERED 2 - New York (100-102397) 1 - Memphis HH:mjh (6)	MAIL)	sayan	5-37/37-25 0CT-29 1965	_
¢*	11/21/02 JY 502 OLT LOT	<b>~</b> .	SUT	AT COLINGE	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ME 100-4234

On 10/25/65	Central Records Division,
Nashville - Davidson County Metropol that she could locate no record in h	er files identifiable with
JOHN OLIVER KILLENS.	b70

For information and for assistance of New York in this matter, SA recalls reviewing a subversive publication sometime during the early part of the Summer of 1965 which dealt with the Writers Conference in East Germany. SA recalls several photographs in this publication and believes that one of these photographs depicted JOHN O. KILLENS and so identified him. The name of this publication is not recalled, although it is believed to be "The Liberator" or possibly "The Worker" or "Daily Peoples World," exact copy not recalled.

SAC, New York (100-102397)

REC 30

Director, FBE (105-37137) -- 22

11/3/65

1 -

b7C

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS SECURITY MATTER - C 0-1 to NY (LIM)

ReMElet 10/27/55.

For your information, Bureau files show that a photo of John Killens, which is referred to in referenced letter, is contained on page 8 of the 6/6/65, edition of "The Worker." In addition, an article concerning a group of writers who gathered at Weimer, German-Democratic Republic, during May, 1965, is set out on page 7 of the Saturday, 6/19/65, edition of "People's World." That article sets out the name of John O. Killens as one of the individuals who attended the conference.

WHF:bac
(5)

NOTE:

Subject is on Section A of the Reserve Index. He reportedly traveled abroad and New York in referenced letter set out leads in an effort to verify the travel.

11/21/02 SP2MLT/CAL.

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#### UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

### Memorandum

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Director, FBI (Bufile- 105-37137 ) DATE 11/9/65

sac. NEW YORK(100-102397)

SUBJECT

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS . SM-C (OO: NEW YORK)

It is recommended that a Reserve Index Card be pre- the above-captioned indiv	epared on		Card on t	tion A" Reserv he captioned in changed as fo change only)	dividual
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	γez	4/24/02	383mb7 10	42,	
Native Born	Naturalized		Alien		
Communist	Socialist Wo	orkers Party			
Miscellaneous (specify)	7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7				
Date of birth Place of bir	th	The same of the sa		Race	Sex Male Female
Business Address (show name of Author-Ar-Rest Fisk University Nashville, Ter	lden <b>c</b> e	address)			
Key Facility Data					
Geographical Reference Numb	er			Responsibility .	
Interested Agencies			105	3713	37-
Residence Address					
10th & N	Fisk Univers Leharry Blvd.,	at Burrow sity Campu Nashvill	s Apts. s e, Tenn.	- NUV	15 1505
1-New York New York New York REGISTERED MAIL (3)			Du E. K.	SUBV	CANTANT

OPTIONAL FORM NO 10 MAY 1 2 EDITION GSA -PAR (41 C ) 101-11 6 UNITED STATES GO RNMENT

## $oldsymbol{M} emorandum$

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-37137)

DATE: 11/17/65

SAC, NEW YORK (100-102397)

SUBJECT:

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS

SM - C

Re Memphis letter to the Bureau, 10/27/65, and WFO letter to the Bureau, 10/14/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of a LHM reflecting subject's reported travel abroad during the Summer of 1965.

The LHM has been stamped "Confidential" inasmuch as it contains information furnished by confidential sources identified hereinafter, the unauthorized disclosure of which might tend to compromise these sources who are of continuing value, to the detriment of the National Defense.

An FD 122-A, reflecting subject's temporary residence at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, has been submitted. It is noted that NY letter to the Bureau, dated 9/9/65, under above caption, revealed that subject's spouse noted that subject would continue his permanent residence in Brooklyn, therefore, UACB, NY will retain origin in this case.

For the information of the Memphis Office, the following is noted:

Subject's name appeared on a 1949 CP nominating petition. JAMES JACKSON left a message for subject to contact him at National CP Headquarters in January, 1951. Subject admitted in 1942, membership with Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and admitted being a delegate to the American Youth Congress prior to 1942. Subject's book, "Young Blood", was reviewed by the "Daily Worker" in April, 1956. He was elected a member-at-large on the staff of the Brooklyn NAACP in December, 1955.

2 - Bureau (Encls. 5) (RM) 1 - Memphis (100-4234) (Info) (RM) C 49 /05-3

WRC:kgd (4)

25 NOV 18 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plans

b7C

NY 100-102397

A source, in October, 1957, advised subject, in 1952, was active in the Executive Board of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Section of the Kings County CP, and that source believed subject, as of October, 1957, was still a CP member because of his contacts with known CP members. Subject, in 1963, spake at the Militant Labor Forum sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party at NY, and his name and address was contained on a mailing list of the Fair Play For Cuba Committee in 1963. His name was also contained on an SWP calendar of coming events in 1963.

The confidential sources referred to in the LHM are identified as follows:

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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION New York, New York

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No Bufile 105-37137

NYfile 100-102397

John Oliver Killens / Security Matter - C

The June 6, 1965 edition of "The Worker", on page eight, contains a photograph of subject, described as a Negro-American Novelist, who is pictured observing two other individuals, described as former Buchenwald Concentration Camp inmates, greeting each other at a Weimar, German Democratic Republic Convention of writers from 52 countries.

The article, beginning on page seven in that issue, described the gathering as a commemoration of the 20th anniversary of liberation from Hitler facism and the 30th anniversary of the Paris Writers' Congress. According to the article, the meetings began in Berlin, on May 14, 1965 and ended in Weimar, on May 19, 1965.

It is further noted that an article concerning a group of writers who gathered at Weimar, Germar - Democratic Republic, during May 1965, is set out on page seven of the Saturday, June 19, 1965 edition of "People's World". That article sets out the name of John Oliver Killens as one of the individuals who attended the conference.

A:/It is noted that "The Worker" is an East
Coast Communist newspaper, and "People's
World" is a West Coast Communist newspaper.

The subject maintains his permanent residence with his wife, Grace Ward Jones Killens, at 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York, and is an author-in-residence at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, for the school year of 1965-66. He is presently residing temporarily while at Fisk University in Burrows Apartments, Apartment 25, Fisk University Campus, which is located at 16th and Meharry Boulevard, Nashville, Tennessee.

11/20/02 SPAMIT KART

COPIES DESTROYED

13 MAY 15 1972

/05-37/37-23

X

John Oliver Killens

On September 22, 1964, a confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, related that at a conference in the office of the Progressive Labor Movement, on September 21, 1964, it was decided to make a movie on the poor conditions in Harlem. According to this confidential source, the subject was to write the script of the film.

For a characterization of the Progressive Labor Movement, see the appendix.

On July 5, 1964, a second confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished information that at that time he learned that subject wanted to help the Organization of Afro-American Unity.

For a characterization of the Organization of Afro-American Unity, see the appendix.

The subject is described as follows:

Sex
Race
Date of Birth
Height
Weight
Build
Hair
Eyes
Complexion

Male
Negro
January 14, 1916
Five feet, nine inches
140 pounds
Medium
Black
Brown
Dark



John Oliver Killens 1.

#### APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP)
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT (PLM)

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the PLP, formerly known as the PLM, held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

"The New York Times," City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as MILTON ROSEN, New York, President, and WILLIAM EPTON of New York and MORT SCHEER of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. ROSEN and Mr. SCHEER after they were expelled from the Communist party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes the "Marxist-Leninist Quarterly," a theoretical magazine; "Progressive Labor," a monthly magazine; "Challenge," a New York City newspaper; and "Spark," a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge," page 6, states that, "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life-where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

X

John Oliver Killens

1.

APPENDIX

#### ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)

On June 28, 1964, MALCOLM X LITTLE, founder and leader of the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI), publicly announced the formation of a new, all Negro, militant civil rights action group to be known as the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), with himself as Chairman. This announcement was made at a public rally held by the MMI in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

A printed and published statement of basic OAAU aims read by MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that it shall include "all" people of African descent in the Western Hemisphere, as well as "our" brothers and sisters on the African continent. It is patterned after the "letter and spirit" of the Organization of African Unity established (by African heads of States) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May, 1963.

A recording of the remarks of MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that the aim of the CAAU is to eliminate differences between Negroes so they can work together for "human rights," while the initial objective is to "internationalize" the American civil rights movement by taking it to the United Nations. LITTLE condemned the non-violent civil rights movement and claims that Negroes should be taught to protect themselves, when and if necessary. The OAAU will sponsor a program for Negroes of education, politics, culture, economics, and social reform.

On May 17, 1965, a confidential source advised that the headquarters of the CAAU are located in MMI headquarters, Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 7th Avenue, New York City.

MALCOLM X was assassinated on February 21, 1965. while addressing an OAAU rally at the Audubon Ballroom, New York City.

\* •

John Oliver Killens

2.

APPENDIX

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)

On April 13, 1965, a second confidential source advised that on March 26, 1965, the OAAU filed a Certificate of Incorporation with the Department of State, State of New York, Albany, New York, and henceforth the organization's true name will be Organization of Afro-American Unity; Incorporated.



0-1 (Rev. 8-27-63)
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

we with a summer of the summer	, ,
TO JAC, New York (Your file 180-102397 DATE:	11/18/65
FROM Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 105 - 37137	
SUBJECT: John Oliver Killens SM-C	Post in file and destroy 0-1 (For SOG use only)
1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquent	cy S. WHF for of
airtel   Detterhead memo   submitted	Talloa BY Stantill
Reporting employee  3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason sp will be submitted	ecifically and when report
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DIRECTOR, FBI	10/11/67
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FBI 11/27/67 Date: Transmit the following in \_ (Type in plaintext or code) AIRTEL. (Priority) TO DIRECTOR, FBI FROM SAC, NEW YORK b1 SUBJECT : b1 b15) ATA, THEOTHATTOT CONTAINED EXCEPT TOTAL EXCEPT ONIGINAL FILED Bureau NOT RECORDED (1 - 105 - 37137)(Kīllens) 1 - Memphis (100-4234) (Info.) (RM)183 NOV 30 1967 1 - New York (100-102397) (Killens) b1 JFS:RM (11)11/27/02 62 DEC-8 Approved: \_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_M Per\_ Special Agent in Charge

| (s) | b1 | (s) | b1 | (s) | b1 | (s) | contact | conta

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS' name appeared on a 1949
CP nominating petition. JAMES JACKSON left a message
for KILLENS to contact him at National CP Headquarters in
January, 1951. KILLENS admitted in 1942 membership
with Washington Committee for Democratic Action and
admitted being a delegate to the American Youth
Congress prior to 1942. KILLENS' book, "Young Blood", was
reviewed by the "Daily Worker" in April, 1956. He was elected a
member-at-large on the staff of the Brooklyn NAACP in December,
1955. A source, in October, 1957, advised KILLENS, in 1952, was
active in the Executive Board of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Section
of the Kings County CP, and that source believed KILLENS, as of
October, 1957, was still a CPImember because of his contacts with
known CP members. KILLENS, in 1963, spoke at the Militant Labor
Forum sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party at NY, and his
name and address was contained on a mailing list of the Fair
Play For Cuba Committee in 1963. His name was also contained
on an SWP calendar of coming events in 1963.

On 11/2/67, advised that one contacted the Soviet Mission to the United Nations (SMUN).

(ph) claimed that he had spoken to in the past few days, at the UN, and was invited to visit

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1888 EDITION GBA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11 5 UNITED STATES GO

## lemorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-37137)

DEC 1 5 1967

SAC, NEW YORK (100-102397) (C)

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS

(OO: NEW YORK)

5)

On December 7, 1967 Mrs. GRACE KILLENS, subject's spouse, was contacted by SA at her residence, phone number SL 6-9270, an unpublished number. The pretext

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Mrs. KILLENS confirmed her husband's continued position as author-in-residence at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, and temporary residence in Apartment 25, Burrows Apartments, Fisk University Campus, 16th and Meharry Blvd.. Nashville, Tennessee.

She advised that subject plans to spend some time with her at their permanent residence, 1392 Union Street. Brooklyn, New York, over the Christmas - New Years holidays, following which he will again return to Nashville, Tennessee. In a lengthy conversation with Mrs. KILLENS, it was intimated that CORE would be interested, particularly, in a speaker who might recently have been to Russia. To this, Mrs. KILLENS responded that possibly CORE would not be interested in utilizing subject's services as neither she nor subject had been in the recent past, nor do they plan in the immediate future to visit the Soviet Union.

Bureau (RM) - Memphis (INFOR (RM) 1 - New York WAC: kpk

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DEC 21 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

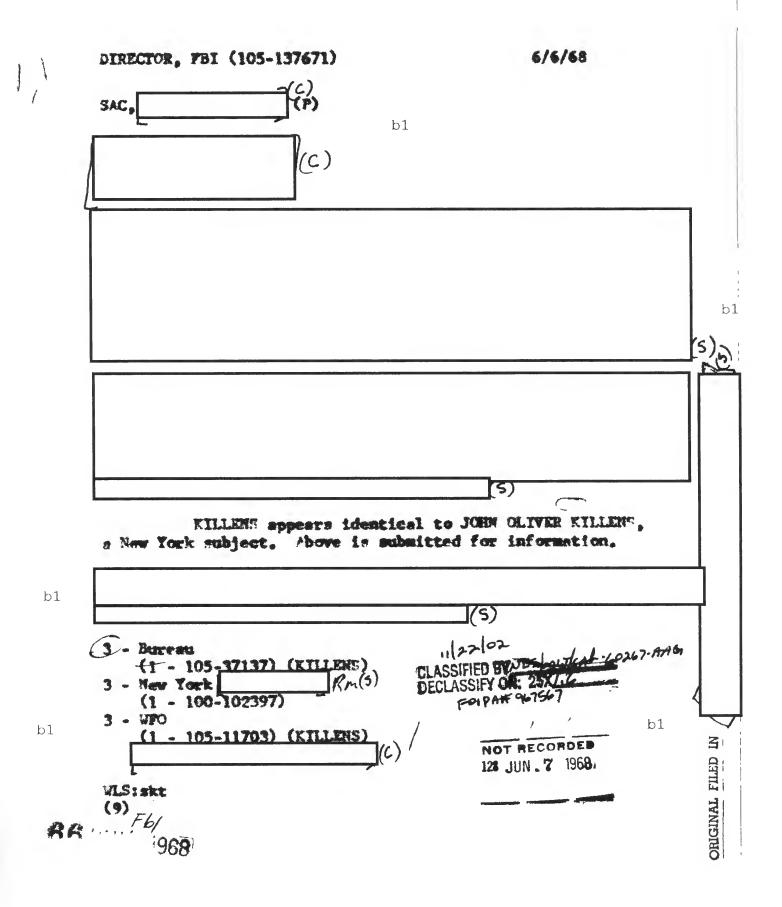
SUBJECT:

NY 100-102397



It is noted that subject is included in Section A of the Research Index. A review of his New York case file reflects no pertinent, reportable information. Accordingly, no further action will be taken in this case at this time, and New York is returning this case to a closed status.

	UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM	
7-4 [1]	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (5) DATE: 12/19/67	
	FROM: SAC, NEWARK (RUC) b1	L
:	SUBJECT:  (5)  CLASSIFIED BY Decided court And DECLASSIFY ON: 20X  Re New York airtel to Bureau dated 11/27/67.	(6)
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DIRECTOR, PBI	6/17/68
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# Memorandum

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DIRECTOR, FBI (105-37137) (100-406272)

7/23/68 DATE:

SAC, NEW YORK (100-102397) (C) (100-102803) (C)

SUBJECT.

JOHN OLIVER KILLENS

SM-C

GRACE KILLENS

SM-C

Enclosed are six copies of an LHM reflecting travel to the USSR by GRACE and JOHN OLIVER KILLENS.

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The second confident	tial source is			The third	
confidential source	is	The	fourt	n confident	tial
source is					]
					<b>(S)</b>

This LHM is classified "Secret - No Foreign <u>Disseminat</u>ion" (S)

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#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York July 23, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. BUFILES 105-37137 100-406272

SECRET

- NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

NYFILES 100-102397 100-102803

> John Oliver Killens Grace Killens Security Matter-C

All confidential sources mentioned in this memorandum are individuals who have furnished reliable information in the past.

#### I. BACKGROUND

John Oliver Killens, born January 14,1916, Macon, Georgia and married Grace Ward Jones on June 19, 1943 at Brooklyn, New York. He resides at 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York and is author-in-residence at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee. He has a temporary residence in Apartment 25, Burrows Apartments, Fisk University Campus, 16th and Meharry Boulevard, Nashville, Tennessee.

Grace Killens was born on June 25, 1919, Brooklyn, New York and resides at 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY

(CP) MOVE GENT

MASSIFIED BY

John Oliver Killens

Killens was interviewed under oath by Special Agent (SA) R.F. RYAN on February 26, 1942 and stated that he had been a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. He also stated he had been a delegate to a conference of the American Youth Congress held in 1941 and that he had participated in the activities and made contributions to the National Negro Congress but that he was never an active member of this organization.

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113 MAY 15 1972

SECRET - NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

DECLASSIFY ON: 25%

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

> The Washington Committee for Democratic Action, the American Youth Congress and the National Negro Congress have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The confidential source advised on June 24, 1963, that John Killens was the speaker at the Militant Labor Forum held June 21, 1963, at 116 University Place, New York.

A second confidential source advised on September 19, 1963, that the Militant Labor Forum was sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The June 6, 1965 edition of "The Worker" on page 8, contains a photograph of the subject, described as a Negro American novelist, who is pictured observing two other individuals, described as former Buchenwald Concentration Camp inmates, greeting each other at a Weimar German Democratic Republic Convention of writers from 52 countries.

The article on page 7 of that issue described the gathering as a Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Liberation from Hitler Fascism and the 30th Anniversary of the Paris Writers Congress. According to the article, the meeting began in Berlin on May 14, 1965, and ended in Weimar on May 19, 1965.



John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

> "The Worker" was an east coast Communist newspaper that suspended publication.

The June 19, 1965 edition of "People's World" on page 7, contained an article concerning a group of writers who gathered at the Weimar German Democratic Republic during May, 1965. The article states that John Oliver Killens was one of the individuals who attended the conference.

"People's World" is a west coast Communist newspaper.

A third confidential source advised on November 18, 1965 that Killens was requested to contribute an article to the spring, 1966 issue of "Freedomways" magazine.

A characterization of Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, publishers of "Freedomways" appears in the appendix section attached hereto.

#### Grace Killens

A fourth confidential source on January 6, 1954, advised that the subject was employed by the Amtorg Trading Corporation in 1942.

A characterization of the Amtorg Trading Corporation appears in the appendix section attached hereto.

A fifth confidential source advised in the spring of 1949 that subject was employed at the Bulgarian Legation, Washington, D.C., in March, 1948.



SECRET - NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

#### III. TRAVEL DATA

(5)	k
	(5)

#### IV. MISCELLANEOUS

The following is a description of Grace Killens:

Name

Grace Killens also known as

Grace Ward Jones

Mrs. John Oliver Killens

Sex

Female

Race

Negro

Date of Birth

June 25, 1919 Brooklyn, New York

Place of Birth

49

Age Height

Five feet, two inches

Weight

125 Medium

Build

Hair

Black

Eyes

Brown

The following description is of John Oliver

#### Killens:

Name

John Oliver Killens

Sex

Male Negro

Race Date of Birth

January 14, 1916

SEORET - NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

SECRET - NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

Place of Birth Age

Height Weight Build

Hair Eyes

Complexion

Macon, Georgia

52

Five feet, nine inches

140 Medium

Black

Brown

Dark

SERRET - NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

#### APPENDIX

1.

#### "AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION"

AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION, according to records of the New York County Clerk, is a New York corporation formed in 1924. It has acted since then as a buying and selling agency in the United States for most of the foreign trade organizations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Since 1949, it has been registered with the United States Department of Justice pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.





John Oliver Killens Grace Killens

#### APPENDIX

1.

#### FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INC.

The records of the New York State Secretary of State, Albany, New York, show that the Certificate of Incorporation of Freedomways Associates, Inc., was filed on March 2, 1961.

On May 24, 1961, a source advised that a report was given on "Freedomways" at a meeting of the National Board, Communist Party, USA (CP, USA), held on May 24, 1961. It was stated that the central purpose of "Freedomways" is to develop a theory and positive criticism of currents in the Negro Movement, as well as to raise the level of understanding and discussion taking place in Negro life today and to project a socialist and pro-Soviet orientation.

On May 25, 1961, a second source advised that "Freedomways" was set up for the CP, USA by JAMES JACKSON.

The First Quarter, 1967, issue of "Freedomways", self-described as "A Quarterly Review of the Negro Freedom Movement" published by Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, 799 Broadway, New York City, lists the following as its editorial staff:

JOHN HENRIK CLARKE, Associate Editor ESTHER JACKSON, Managing Editor J. H. O'DELL, Associate Managing Editor JOHN L. DEVINE, Art Editor

A third source made available information on July 1, 1964, indicating that JOHN HENRIK CLARKE attended the first and founding meeting of the American Institute for Marxist Studies (AIMS) which was held on December 19, 1963, and continued on January 10, 1964.

This source also made available information on August 14, 1964, indicating that CLARKE is an "Associate" of AII

On March 16, 1966, the second source advised that JAMES JACKSON, accompanied by his wife, ESTHER JACKSON, was scheduled to depart on March 25, 1966, from the United States en route to Moscow to attend the 23rd Congress of the CP of the



APPENDIX



2.

#### FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INC. (CONTINUED)

Soviet Union. This source described JAMES JACKSON as a member of the National Committee, CP, USA.

On July 26, 1966, a fourth source identified O'DELL as a member of the CP.

On January 30, 1961, SYLVIA M. BRENNER DEVINE, 415 South 50th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advised that her former husband, JACK DEVINE, mentioned on December 17, 1960, that he was still in the CP and that the CP is his whole life.

On July 24, 1963, a fifth source described JOHN DEVINE as a CP member.

A characterization of AIMS is set out separately.



### Seminar on Black Culture Begins at Columbia

### John O. Killens Is Directing ,\_'Debrainwash' Attempt

By EARL CALDWELL

A graduate seminar in black culture and a creative writing workshop in the black experience has begun at Columbia University under the direction of John O Killens, the author Mr Killens is one of the Negro writers whose present task, he said, is to "debrain-wash" black people

"We have to undo the mil-Jions of little white lies that America told itself and the world about the American black man," the 52-year-old novelist said in an interview last week

Mr Killens holds that it is up to the black writer to interpret the so-called black revolu tion, dramatize it and point it in a certain direction

But he maintained that the revolution itself had not yet begun Instead, he argued, Negroes have been deceived into believing that they are going through the revolution

No Longer a 'Dirty Word'

"Six or seven years ago revolution was a dirty word," he said "Then all of a sudden some white guy said that what Negroes were into was revolution. Then all Negroes started running around talking that

they were into a revolution
"I think this was a tactic to keep Negroes from moving If you're in a revolution you don't have to move toward one" Discussing his educational

duties at Columbia, which is on the fringe of Harlem, Mr Killens said

"It is encouraging to see Columbia finally reach out and respond to the community around it I hope this kind of experience can become an innovation that will reach out to universities and colleges throughout the country

#### Assignment at Fisk

This is his second academic assignment From 1965 until 1968 he was writer-in-residence at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn

 An advocate of black studies programs, Mr Killens said the students were "beautiful" but "still have illusions" He said that basically what the students were now saying was that the universities should have some relevance to their

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encept," he continued, "but that does not mean that we are in a revolution."

In the interview at his home, en a quiet block in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, Mr. Killens said he had noted a change in the work of Negro

writers
"Generally speaking," said, "most black writers have decided to move from the realm of social protest to the realm of affirmation and revo-

#### Calls It Healthy

"very He called this a "very healthy" development "What's being done now is more posi-tive," he explained "It's not just a protest of how bad white folks are treating us

But Mr Killens added that the black writer was still con-

fronted with many problems
"The basic one," he said, "is
that he is anti-Establishment and he has to go to the Estab-

lishment for his publishing. I think the answer to this is for black people to create some publishing houses'

Mr Killens, who is now completing his fourth work of fiction, was also critical of white remowers.

"White critics are totallyand I mean totally incapable of criticizing the black writer," he said 'They don't understand Afro-Americanese."

He said that white critics tend to bring "the white experience to the black experience" but that "it doesn't work"

WORK Killens's latest book, "The Cotillion," is a satire on the black bourgeoisie He said that he expected "to lose a few friends" when it was published

His other works of fiction are "Youngblood," "And Then We Heard Thunder" and "Sippi" He also is the author of a nonfiction work, "Black Man's

Mr Killens has also written a play, "Lower Tnan Angels." and two screenplays, "Odds Against Tomorrow" and "The Slaves" "The Slaves," which stars Ossie Davis and Dionne Warwick, will be released in about a nonth.

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March 6, 1970

BY LIAISON

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on received by this Bureau from the Civil Service Commission for processing under Executive Order 10450 (Federal Employee Security Program).

There are attached single copies of ten investigative reports and seven memoranda relating to John Oliver Killens

b70

These are furnished for your information and do not constitute a clearance or disapproval of for Federal employment. No action is contemplated by the FBI regarding your employee under the provisions of Executive Order 10450 in the absence of a specific request. This material is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Upon removal of classified enclosures, this document becomes unclassified.

Enclosures (18)

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It should be noted that KILLENS is identical to the subject of this communication.

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The above is being furnished to the Bureau and to the New York Office for information.

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	Date 3/11/(1
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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No

New York, New York May 11, 1971

Bufile 105-37137 New York 100-102397



John Oliver Killens Security Matter - C

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Excluded from automatic wingraving and classification

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#### John Oliver Killens

Age Date and Place of

Birth

Race Height Weight Hair

Eyes Complexion Wife

Occupation Residence

55

January 14, 1916, Macon , Georgia

Negro

140 pounds

Black Brown Dark Grace

Writer, teacher 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York

The 1970 - 1971 directory of the staff of Columbia University, New York City, lists John O. Killens as Adjunct Professor of Writing.

The "Nashville Tennessean", Nashville, Tennessee, February 13, 1971, reported that John Oliver Killens, described as author, essayist and critic, of Brooklyn, New York, was to be a guest consultant at a Workshop, at Fisk University's Institute on Inservice Training in the Teaching of Black Literature.

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Sa ings Plan

17 JUL 7 1972

NY 100-102397

informants indicated his interest in civil rights and Negro history in his capacity as an author. This information has not been included in LHM because of its non-specific characteristics. The available information on the subject and a canvass of the informants does not indicate his association with any organization that would require any additional investigation at this time.

This LHM is classified "Confidential" since it contains information furnished from sources, any unauthorized disclosure of this information could be prejudicial to the defense interests of the US.



# CONFIDENTIAL UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York
July 5, 1972

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. Bufile 157-24241
NYfile 100-102397

John W. Killens
Extremist Matters Republic of New Africa (RNA)
Security Matter - C

The RNA was founded in Detroit, Michigan, in March, 1968. Its purpose is to establish an independent black nation within the United States, demanding the States of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi, and \$10,000 per black citizen for reparations. The RNA, a violence-prone, black extremist, separatist organization, is now headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Reference is made to previous Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) memoranda, dated May 11, 1971 and July 23, 1968.

On December 27, 1971, a source advised that John. O. Killens, 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York (NY), issued a check on December 26, 1971 for \$100 payable to the Republic of New Africa for deposit in the New African Prisoner of War Fund in Jackson, Mississippi.

The 1971-1972 directory of the staff of Columbia University, New York City (NYC), lists John O. Killens as Adjunct Professor of Writing.

CONFIDENTIAL GROUP/I

Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification.

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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## CONFINENTIAL

John O. Killens

On June 22, 1972, a representative of the FBI caused a search to be made in the personnel files of the Columbia University, NYC, NY, which revealed that John Oliver Killens, 1392 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY, is a United States (US) citizen and married to Grace Killens. Killens was formerly employed by Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, as a writer in residence from February, 1965 to June, 1968. Killens has been employed by Columbia University since February 1, 1969 as an Adjunct Professor in the School of Arts.

The following description was obtained from the records:

Name
Sex
Race
Date of birth
Place of birth
Height
Weight

John Oliver Killens Male Negro January 14, 1916 Macon, Georgia Five feet nine inches 140 pounds

During April, May and June, 1972 several sources, who are familiar with the RNA and other black nationalist groups, were contacted in efforts to obtain any information concerning Killen's affiliation with the RNA, but at no time was any positive information ever developed.



#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York July 5, 1972

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. Bufile 157-24241 NYfile 100-102397

Title

John O. Killens

Character

Extremist Matters - Republic

of New Africa Security Matter-C

Reference

is made to New York memorandum,

dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

MAY NEE EDITION SEA PPMR (41 CHR) 161-11.6 UNITED STATES GO RNMENT

# lemorandum

ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 2/28/73

FROM

SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT:

BLACK LIBERATION ARMY EM-URBAN GUERRILLA WARFARE Bufile 157-10555

NYFILE 157-7347

JOHN O. KILLENS

EM-RNA /05-37/3 Bufile 100-3713 NYFILE 100-102397

Renylet to Acting Director, dated 1/11/73 and captioned "BLACK LIBERATION ARMY, EM-URBAN GUERRILLA WARFARE".

KILLINS 757-9187. //

contained the name JOHN O.

b2

Telephone # 757-9187 is a non-published phone subscribed to by GRACE KILLENS, 1392 Union St., Brooklyn, NY.

GRACE TILLENS is the wife of the subject JOHN O KILLENS.

JOHN O. KILLENS resides at 1392 Union St., Brooklyn, NY, and is employed as a professor at Columbia University.

It is believed that an attempt to interview the subject would be unproductive. Since the subject has been fully identified, this case is being placed in closed status.

4) Bureau (RM) <del>(2- 157-1055</del>5 2- 100-37137

1- New York (157-7347) 1- New York (100-102397)

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